In April 2000, the Government Introduced a Bill, in the Rajya Sabha, to amend the CMN Act, 1973 to, *inter-alia,* allow Indian companies mining of coal for own consumption, sale or for any other purpose.

Addition in production of Coal as a result of above dispensations would significantly reduce the gap between the demand and supply of Coal.

Coal production in the country

2403. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the demand of coal in the country is fully met by the domestic production;

(b) the details regarding the mine-wise production and the country's annual demand of coal; and

(c) the details of import of coal for the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The details of mine-wise production for the year 2003-04 is as under:

Open Cast Mines	298.412 million tonnes (Provisional)
Underground Mines	62.756 million tonnes (Provisional)

The demand of coal as finalized by Planning Commission for the year 2004-05 is 404.19 million tonnes.

(c) The details of import of coal for the last three years is as under:—

(figures in million tonnes)

2001-02	20.55
2002-03	23.26
2003-04 (Provisional)	21.50